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February 6, 1978

Prof. R.G.E. Murray
Editor, Bacteriological Reviews
Department of Bacteriology
University of Western Ontario
London, N6A 5C1
Ontario, Canada

Dear Bob:

This is a somewhat belated reply to your letter of October 26th. A good deal of my time in the interval has been punctuated by traffic with Rockefeller University, but now that that is settled I can respond to you more confidently than ever.

I was delighted to get your solicitation about a historical contribution, since this is very close to some of the work I have been engaged in during the last two or three years. In fact in collaboration with Professor Harriet Zuckerman -- of the Department of Sociology, Columbia University -- I have a draft that can give you an idea of the domain that we would very much like to cover. This was originally written for another purpose which, in the event, has been obviated. I think it is very much in line with what you requested in your letter although it is subject to some substantial textual and stylistic revision to suit the needs of the reviews. We would have in mind the recasting of the entire manuscript which uses the strictly autobiographical section as primary data, but which integrates that discussion, and the technical background, into a coherent whole. I have been particularly pleased to be able to undertake this collaboration which offers a very different perspective from my own and I truly believe will help to enrich the entire field.

Both of us certainly hope that you will take a sympathetic view of this project, and of course would welcome any general suggestions you

Murray R.G.E.

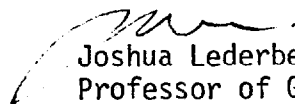
Prof. R.G.E. Murray

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might wish to offer about the organization of this material that would make it most appropriate for the reviews.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

P.S. I do have to bring you up-to-date on a point of personal history of some standing. Esther and I were divorced, and I remarried about ten years ago. Esther remains at Stanford in the Department of Medical Microbiology.

JL:ek-f